

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 08812 041558Z

62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01

RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 PM-03 AID-05

SY-04 /060 W

----- 077411

R 041515Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9058

INFO DOD/DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 8812

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, AR

SUBJ: ARMY OFFICER AND DAUGHTER KILLED

1. CURRENT ERP ASSASSINATION CAMPAIGN AGAINST ARMY RESULTED IN DEATH OF TENTH OFFICER ON DEC 1 IN TUCUMAN. MAJOR HUMBERTO VIOLA AND HIS THREE-YEAR OLD DAUGHTER WERE BOTH CUT DOWN BY HAIL OF AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE. ANOTHER DAUGHTER OF FIVE YEARS WAS GAVELY INJURED DURING ATTACK, AND ACCORDING TO SOME REPORTS HAD DIED. IN THEIR ENSUING SEARCH FOR TERRORISTS, TUCUMAN POLICE ARRESTED 500 PEOPLE MOST OF WHOM WERE RELEASED AFTER BEING CLEARED OF SUSPICION.

2. SANTA FE POLICE ANNOUNCED ARREST OF FIVE PEOPLE ON DEC 2 WHO ARE ALLEGEDLY RESPONSIBLE FOR MURDERS OF TWO ARMY OFFICERS THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN THAT CITY.

3. COMMENT: SHOCK AND INDIGNATION HAVE FOLLOWED THIS MURDER AS IN PREVIOUS NINE ASSASSINATIONS. DEATH OF VIOLA'S DAUGHTER HAS GREATLY INCREASED INDIGNATION. ACCORDING TO DAO SOURCES, PRESSURE FOR ACTION, ESPECIALLY AMONG JUNIOR AND MIDDLE GRADE OFFICERS, IS INTENSE. ACTION SPOKEN OF, RATHER THAN A "GOLPE", IS REMOVAL OF HIGH ARMY OFFICERS, OR A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN ANTI-GUERRILLA STRUGGLE. EVEN RECENT SUCCESSES AGAINST TERRORISTS SEAMS TO DO LITTLE TO REDUCE THIS PRESSURE. DEATH
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PAGE 02 BUENOS 08812 041558Z

OF THREE-YEAR OLD CALLS TO MIND WORDS OF SENATOR PAZ TO AMB

HILL (BA 7979) TO THE EFFECT THAT FIRST DEPENDENT KILLED WOULD
CAUSE WORD TO BE PASSED THAT FAMILIES OF ERP MEMBERS WOULD NO
LONGER RECEIVE POLICE PROTECTION.

HILL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PINS, ASEC, AR, (VIOLA, HUMBERTO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005